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From the --- INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:

VAN WEZENBEEK, P.M.G.F. P.O. Box 20 NL-5340 BH Oss PAYS-BAS PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

Date of mailing (day|month|year)

23/08/2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2002.750 WO

International application No.

International filing date (day/month/year)

Priority date (day/month/year)

PCT/EP03/51025

16/12/2003

20/12/2002

Applicant

AKZO NOBEL N.V. et al.

- The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international
 preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
- A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
- 3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices)(Article 39(1))(see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/

European Patent Office D-80298 Munich

Tel. (+49-89) 2399-0, Tx: 523656 epmu d

Fax: (+49-89) 2399-4465

| ALDERS-MEEWIS A

Authorized officer

Tel. (+49-89) 2399 2828

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Form PCT/IPEA/416 (August 2002) P20473





INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

(Rationalised Report according to the Notice of the President of the EPO published in the OJ11/2001)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2002.750 WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification Preliminary E	on of Transmittal of International xamination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
	International filing date (day/	nonth year)	Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/EP03/51025	16/12/2003		20/12/2002
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Applicant			
AKZO NOBEL N.V. et al.			
This international preliminary exami Authority and is transmitted to the a	nation report has been prepare applicant according to Article 3	ed by this Interna 6.	ational Preliminary Examining
2. This REPORT consists of a total of	of2 sheets, including	this cover sheet	t.
This report is also accompanie been amended and are the basi (see Rule 70.16 and Section 60	s for this report and/or sheets	containing recult	n, claims and/or drawings which have ications made before this Authority PCT).
These annexes consists of a total of	sheets.		
3. This report contains indications rela	ting to the following items:		
I $\overline{\mathbf{X}}$ Basis of the report			
II Priority			,
III Non-establishment of op	inion with regard to novelty, is	rventive step and	industrial applicability
IV Lack of unity of invention	on		
V X Reasoned statement und		novelty, inventiv	e step or industrial applicability;
VI Certain documents cited	•		
VII Certain defects in the int	ernational application		
VIII Certain observations on	the international application		
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Date of submission of the demand	Date	e of completion of	of this report
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Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) P20476 (October 2002)		8800100 - 9.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP03/51025

I. Basis of the report

The basis of this international preliminary examination is the application as originally filed.

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

In light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as defined in the claims meets the criteria mentioned in Article 33 (1) PCT, i.e. it appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step and to be industrially applicable.